H.261, or video H.263] data and one or more of the decoder modules decodes audio G.711[,] data and another decodes audio G723.1[, video H.261 or video H.263] data.

3. (Amended) The computer system of claim [1] 2 further comprising a demultiplexer operatively coupled to the two or more receiver payload handler modules for routing data to one of the receiver payload handlers based on data type.

4. (Amended) The computer system of claim [1] 2 further comprising a demultiplexer operatively coupled to the one or more decoders for routing data to one of the decoders based on data type.

9. (Amended) A computer system comprising a demultiplexer operatively coupled to two or more receiver payload handler modules [or] which are coupled to two or more decoder modules for routing data to [one of] the receiver payload handlers [or] and to [one of] the decoder modules based on [data] type of audio data or type of video data.

11. (Amended) The computer system of claim 9 wherein at least one [or more] of the payload handler modules handles audio G.711 [,] data and at least one other handles audio G.723.1[, video H.261, or video H.263] data and at least one [or more] of the decoder modules decodes audio G.711[,] data and at least one other decodes audio G723.1[, video H.261 or video H.263] data.

18. (Amended) A method of conducting a network conference with two or more computer systems, the method comprising:

monitoring incoming audio or video data for each of a plurality of conference parties for active or inactive status;

monitoring incoming audio or video data for a new speaker;

replacing audio or video data having the inactive status with data for the new speaker;

receiving audio or video data from first and second computer systems;

determining the type of the audio or video data from the first computer system;

routing the audio or video data from the first computer system to a first decoder based on the determination of the type of audio or video data;

determining the type of the audio or video data from the second computer system; and

routing the audio or video data from the second computer system to a second decoder based on the determination of the type of audio or video data.

21. (Amended) A network conferencing system comprising:

an RTP demultiplexer for receiving and routing one or more RTP data streams based on data type;

two or more receiver payload handler modules coupled to the demultiplexer for handling routed data streams;

two or more decoder modules coupled to the demultiplexer for decoding data;

and a rendering module coupled to the decoder for playing back one or more RTP data streams.

Please add new claims 22-33:

22. (New) A machine readable medium comprising instructions for implementing the modules of claim 18.

23. (New) A machine readable medium comprising instructions for implementing the method of claim 21.

24. (New) A computerized conference system comprising:

receiving means for receiving, via a communications network, respective first and second sets of audio data of respective first and second data types from respective first and second conference participants;

first and second decoder modules for respectively decoding the first and second types of audio data; and

means for routing data received by the receiving means to the first or the second decoder module based on data type;

means for determining whether one or more of the first and second sets of audio data is associated with an inactive conference participant; and

means, responsive to determination of the inactive conference participant, for substituting a third set of data from a third conference participant, for at least the one of the first and second sets of audio data associated with the inactive conference participant.

25. (New) A method of operating a computerized conference system, comprising:

receiving, via a communications network, first and second audio data streams having respective first and second types of audio data from respective first and second conference participants;

decoding at least a portion of the first audio data stream in a first decoder for the first type of audio data;

decoding at least a portion of the second audio data stream in a second decoder for the second type of audio data;

determining whether one or more of the first and second audio data streams is associated with an inactive conference participant; and

substituting a third audio data stream for at least the one of the first and second audio data streams, the third audio data stream associated with the inactive conference participant.

26. (New) A conference system for large numbers of participants, comprising:

means for receiving a plurality of audio data streams from a corresponding plurality of conference participants;

means for selecting a subset of the plurality of audio data streams; and

means for rendering the selected subset of audio data streams.

27. (New) The conference system of claim 26:

wherein the selected subset of audio data streams includes a first audio data stream formatted according to a first protocol and a second audio data stream formatted according to a second audio-data protocol; and

wherein the system further comprises:

first and second decoder modules for decoding respective first and second types of audio data; and

means for routing the first and second audio data streams respectively to the first or the second decoder modules.

28. (New) The conference system of claim 27:

wherein the selected subset of audio data streams includes a first audio data stream and a second audio data stream; and

wherein the system further comprises:

means for determining whether one or more of the first and second audio data streams is associated with an inactive conference participant; and

means, responsive to determination of the inactive conference participant, for substituting a third audio data stream from a third conference participant, for at least the one of the first and second audio data streams associated with the inactive conference participant.

29. (New) A conferencing method comprising:

receiving a plurality of audio data streams from a corresponding plurality of conference participants;

selecting a subset of the plurality of audio data streams; and

rendering the selected subset of audio data streams.

30. (New) The method of claim 29:

wherein the selected subset of audio data streams includes a first audio data stream formatted according to a first protocol and a second audio data stream formatted according to a second protocol; and

wherein the method further comprises:

providing first and second decoder modules for decoding respective first and second types of audio data; and

routing the first and second audio data streams respectively to the first and second decoder modules.

31. (New) The method of claim 29: